

January 2, 1955

Dear Luca and Alba:

I am very sorry we did not manage to see you in Chicago, but it was Wednesday noon before your confirming postcard arrived. We might possibly have managed to leave Madison on Tuesday to meet you, and would have if we had been sure of your time of arrival, but it was otherwise inapt. However, we did see the Novicks on Friday, and they told us how well you have fared.

Did Aaron give you the message about your bags? I had them sent (express collect) c/o Ruth Sager at the Rockefeller Institute. She was also in Chicago on Saturday, but will return not long after you get this letter and hopes to see you.

Not much new here; I have been so tied up with reports and budgets etc. that I had very little time for the lab. The EM work seems in a discouraging state now; I will see if it is possible to transfer single pairs effectively, but am not too hopeful. The indirectly selected  $S^r$  has just finished 20 transfers after purification and will be tested for stability.

No azaserine ever arrived from Halvorson. I sent W-1895 to Milan, and Fischer-Fantuzzi just confirmed its safe arrival.

What do wish done with your bank statements, which will arrive here? I suggest that you send them instructions for forwarding, or else let me know your pleasure.

The score on publishers so far is: + Freeman, Thomas, UW Press and Wiley; - McGraw Hill, Saunders, McMillan, which on just an outline, is not bad. On further reflection and discussion with Freeman, it seems we can do no better, and as you had already assented, I am about to communicate our formal acceptance of his contract. There is not much ~~more~~ basis for choice; on the basis of actual experience, I think Freeman would make the most effort to keep the price low. An endorsed copy of the contract will be sent back to you at Milan.

Clowes wrote again to say he had heard I would be in Europe next year and he is therefore applying elsewhere. Where did he get that idea? I replied urging him to apply to you if he were interested in getting a more detailed picture of formal analysis.

Larry has finished writing his thesis; will take his exam (certainly successfully) on the 19th; you should address him thereafter as Dr., if not Chiarissimo. He has heard nothing substantial about his fellowship.

Have you bought any of the gadgets you were interested in: a tape recorder, movie camera, dictator? The shop for the first, if you've forgotten, is called "Grand Central Radio" at Lexington Ave. near 42-44 St.

Have you summarized any of your data on the Hfr x W-2401 cross, particularly on the Ara-Lac-V<sub>1</sub> relationship? When you get back to Milan, please send me ~~reference~~ on the strains you have wanted, and also the Gal-linked H

There are already a million other things to talk about, but this letter should get off in this afternoon's mail. At any rate,  
a HAPPY NEW YEAR to you both,

from

John and Estlin